

4.5 PSP Cover Sheet (Attach to the front of each proposal)

Proposal Title: San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration
 Applicant Name: U. S. Bureau of Reclamation, Attention: Paula Landis
 Mailing Address: 2666 N. Grove Industrial Drive, Suite 106, Fresno CA 93727
 Telephone: (559) 487-5103
 Fax: (559) 487-5397
 Email: _____

Amount of funding requested: \$ 1,195,000.00 for 3 years

Indicate the Topic for which you are applying (check only one box).

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fish Passage/Fish Screens | <input type="checkbox"/> Introduced Species |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Habitat Restoration | <input type="checkbox"/> Fish Management/Hatchery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local Watershed Stewardship | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Quality | |

Does the proposal address a specified Focused Action? yes no

What county or counties is the project located in? _____

Indicate the geographic area of your proposal (check only one box):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sacramento River Mainstem | <input type="checkbox"/> East Side Trib: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sacramento Trib: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Suisun Marsh and Bay |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin River Mainstem | <input type="checkbox"/> North Bay/South Bay: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin Trib: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape (entire Bay-Delta watershed) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delta: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Indicate the primary species which the proposal addresses (check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin and East-side Delta tributaries fall-run chinook salmon | <input type="checkbox"/> Spring-run chinook salmon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Winter-run chinook salmon | <input type="checkbox"/> Fall-run chinook salmon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Late-fall run chinook salmon | <input type="checkbox"/> Longfin smelt |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delta smelt | <input type="checkbox"/> Steelhead trout |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Splittail | <input type="checkbox"/> Striped bass |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Green sturgeon | <input type="checkbox"/> All chinook species |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Migratory birds | <input type="checkbox"/> All anadromous salmonids |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | |

Specify the ERP strategic objective and target (s) that the project addresses. Include page numbers from January 1999 version of ERP Volume I and II:

The primary biological objectives are to improve riparian and riverine aquatic habitats for Swainson's Hawk, Greater Sandhill Crane, Western Yellow-Billed Cuckoo, Bald Eagle, Great Blue Heron, shorebirds, wading birds, waterfowl, neotropical migratory birds and splittail (ERP Vol.II,page 395). The primary ecological objectives are to expand and reconnect river channels to their floodplains and reactivate natural ecological processes (ERP Vol.II,page 390).

Indicate the type of applicant (check only one box):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> State agency | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public/Non-profit joint venture | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-profit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local government/district | <input type="checkbox"/> Private party |
| <input type="checkbox"/> University | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Indicate the type of project (check only one box):

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Planning | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Implementation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring | <input type="checkbox"/> Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Research | |

By signing below, the applicant declares the following:

- 1.) The truthfulness of all representations in their proposal;
- 2.) The individual signing the form is entitled to submit the application on behalf of the applicant (if the applicant is an entity or organization); and
- 3.) The person submitting the application has read and understood the conflict of interest and confidentiality discussion in the PSP (Section 2.4) and waives any and all rights to privacy and confidentiality of the proposal on behalf of the applicant, to the extent as provided in the Section.

PAULA J. LANDIS

Printed name of applicant

Paula J. Landis

Signature of applicant

SAN JOAQUIN RIVER RIPARIAN HABITAT RESTORATION PROGRAM

Proposal

Submitted in Response to the

CALFED Bay-Delta Program Proposal Solicitation Package

February 1999

Ecosystem Restoration Projects and Programs

Submitted

April 1999

Title Page

Title of Project

San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration

Name of applicant/principle investigators

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Participants and collaborators

Friant Water Users Authority
Natural Resources Defense Council
Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations
San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority
Riparian Landowners
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Type of Organization

Agency

Tax Identification Number and/or Contractor license

Not applicable

Executive Summary

Project Title San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration

Project Description and Primary Biological/Ecological Objectives

This proposal is for the analysis and acquisition of permanent conservation easements that will provide significant riparian habitat and flood protection benefits. Two sites, totaling 20 miles of river, have been identified that will demonstrate the use of natural processes to restore the river channel. Both sites are located within San Joaquin River Ecological Zone identified in the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan.

The primary biological objective is the recovery of native species by improving riparian and riverine aquatic habitats for Swainson's Hawk, Greater Sandhill Crane, Western Yellow-Billed Cuckoo, Bald Eagle, steelhead, Great Blue Heron, shorebirds, wading birds, waterfowl, neotropical migratory birds, riparian brush rabbit, and splittail, (ERPP, Vol.II, page 395). The primary ecological objective is to rehabilitate the natural processes by expanding and reconnecting the river channel to its historic (ERPP, VOL.II, page 390).

Approach/Tasks/Schedule

Hydraulic analyses are underway for both projects. For the Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem (Grasslands SJR Mainstem), the analysis will determine channel capacity. For the Firebaugh to Mendota Corridor, the analysis will determine the level and frequency of flooding. The next step will be to identify willing sellers and proceed with the acquisition of permanent conservation and flood easements. This will take approximately three years.

Justification for Project and Funding by CALFED

The project sites are all located within the San Joaquin River Ecological Zone identified in the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan (ERPP, Vol. II, page 385). The acquisition of these lands and easements are consistent with the CALFED vision for this ecological zone (ERPP, Vol. II, page 390) including restoring important wildlife and plant communities and ecological processes to healthy conditions (ERPP, Vol. II, page 393) and reducing stressors (ERPP, Vol. II, page 394). In addition, integration between CALFED and the San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program is specifically identified on page 397, Volume II of the ERPP.

Budget Costs and Third Party Impacts

The total cost for these analyses and easement acquisitions is \$1,395,000. The total request from CALFED is for \$1,195,000. The breakdown, by site, for the CALFED portion is \$550,000 for the Grasslands SJR Mainstem easements, and \$645,000 for Firebaugh to Mendota easements.

No third party impacts are anticipated as the result of implementing this program. Only property offered by willing sellers is considered in this proposal. Potential impacts from land use changes or changes in flooding conditions are addressed through the broader, ongoing planning efforts of the project participants.

Applicant Qualifications

The Friant Water Users Authority, the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have a long standing interest in this reach of the River. This group is qualified to carry out the proposed project based on the level of interest, participation and support from diverse groups as well as access to technical expertise. The participants are dedicated to bringing this project to fruition and engineering, planning, biological, and legal expertise are available from within the participating agencies, groups and contract consultants.

Monitoring and Data Evaluation

Monitoring and data evaluation will be unique to each project site. Funding for monitoring and data evaluation exists for each site. Monitoring and data evaluation for the Grasslands SJR Mainstem will fall under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service San Luis National Wildlife Refuge. Monitoring and data evaluation for the Firebaugh to Mendota Corridor will fall under the existing San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program.

Local Support/Coordination with other Program/Compatibility with CALFED Objectives

This project has significant support from diverse interest groups and is being carried out in close coordination with other programs including, but not limited to the CVPIA, and the San Joaquin River Management Program. This project is compatible with CALFED objectives related to the loss of riparian habitat for migratory birds species, water quality and temperature problems that negatively impact the Bay-Delta ecosystem.

Project Description

This proposal is to acquire permanent easements that will provide significant riparian habitat and flood protection benefits. Two locations have been identified the Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem Property and the Firebaugh to Mendota Corridor. The easements are demonstration projects that focus on the use of natural processes and restoration of the river channel. All sites are located within San Joaquin River Ecological Zone identified in the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan (Figure 1). The easements are within the Merced River to Mendota Pool Ecological Unit defined on page 389, of the ERPP, Vol. II.

Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem (8 miles): This project involves conducting analyses of flood water routing and riparian restoration potential associated with the San Luis NWR. This project will complement similar efforts (previously funded by CALFED) to evaluate the West Bear Creek Unit of San Luis National Wildlife Refuge. This proposal will allow water, which is currently routed into a bypass channel, to be routed back into the historic San Joaquin River channel to provide both flood protection and riparian habitat benefits.

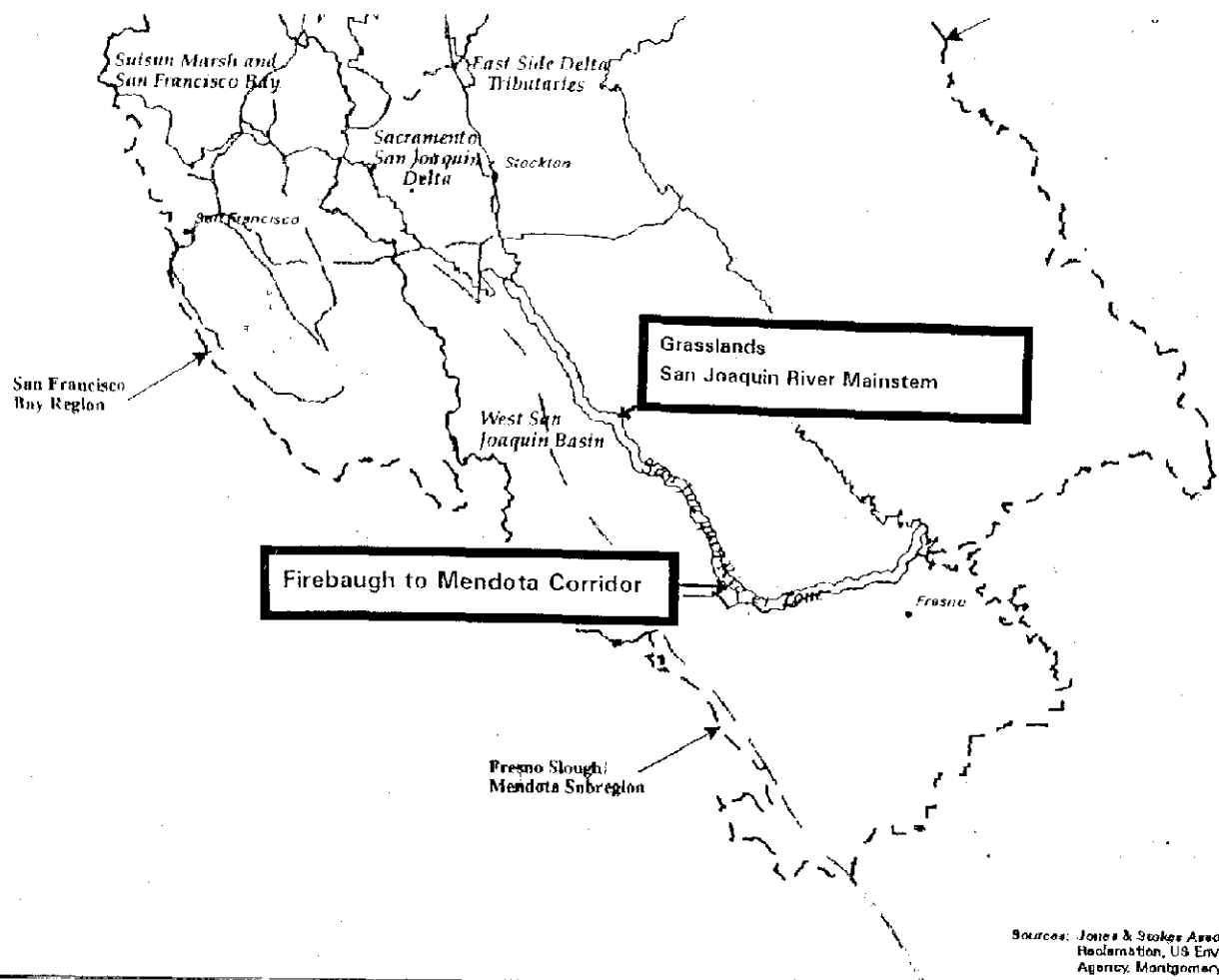
Firebaugh to Mendota Corridor (12 miles): This project is located along the east side of the San Joaquin River between the City of Firebaugh and Mendota Dam. This land is all in private ownership and is currently being farmed. There is a very narrow strip of cottonwood forest at the water's edge. This area experienced extensive flooding during January 1997. The land is underwater, due to seepage, three out five years and cannot be farmed. Several landowners have indicated a willingness to sell flood and/or conservation easements. The features of this project include restoration of shaded riverine aquatic and terrestrial riparian habitat and reconnect the historic floodplain to the river channel.

The approach will be to determine exactly which lands would provide the greatest benefits in terms of both flood protection and riparian habitat restoration. This work has been funded. Potentially, several thousand acres of easements could be acquired. CALFED funding would be used to acquire land that will provide the greatest benefits and has a willing seller.

Proposed Scope of Work

Hydraulic analyses is being completed for both of the proposed demonstration projects. For the Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem, the analyses will determine channel capacity. For the Firebaugh to Mendota Corridor, the analyses will determine the level and frequency of flooding. The next step will be to enter into agreements with willing sellers and proceed with the acquisition of conservation and flood easements.

The scope of work, for the Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem, includes: preparing engineering surveys of the existing river profile and cross sections, including locations of structures and obstructions to flood waters flows, preparing a proposal to modify the channel and structures to accommodate flood flows up to 1,500 cfs, the design flows shown on San Joaquin Valley Flood Control System maps.



Sources: Jones & Stokes Associates, US Bureau of Reclamation, US Environmental Protection Agency, Montgomery Watson.



CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM

Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan

Figure 1
ERPP Study Area
and Ecological Zones

April 8, 1997

Location and Geographic Boundaries

The project is located in Fresno, Madera and Merced Counties and encompasses portions of the San Joaquin River watershed. It is on the floor of the San Joaquin Valley. The San Joaquin River is the second largest contributor of flow to the Delta after the Sacramento River.

The geographic boundaries of the project are the San Joaquin River between Mendota Dam and the confluence of the San Joaquin and Merced Rivers. This information is included in the SJRRHRP GIS data base (electronic copies are available upon request).

Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem - from the southeast corner of San Luis NWR (River Mile 151) to the Pick Anderson Bypass diversion (approximately River Mile 159). (Figure 1)

Firebaugh to Mendota Corridor - from the City of Firebaugh (River Mile 193) to Mendota Pool (River Mile 205). (Figure 1)

Ecological/Biological Benefits

The quantity and quality of riparian habitat along the San Joaquin River is inadequate to support production and survival of desirable plant and animal species. In many locations, riparian habitat is fragmented, degraded or nonexistent.

The focus of this proposal is on reconnecting historic floodplain with the river channel, restoration of shaded riverine aquatic habitat and riparian habitat for terrestrial species. The restoration of these habitats will contribute significantly to ecological health of the Bay-Delta system and the ability of that system to sustain healthy populations of numerous priority species.

The primary stressors identified by CALFED and addressed by this proposal are: floodplain changes, channel form changes, and land use changes including gravel mining, grazing, urbanization and shaded riverine aquatic habitat that is fragmented or nonexistent resulting in a loss of food supply and channel complexity.

Stressor subcategories identified by CALFED and addressed by this proposal include: hydrological or physical isolation of floodplains, channel aggradations due to fine sediment, loss of existing riparian zone and lack of regeneration potential.

Priority native species identified by CALFED that will benefit from the implementation of this proposal include splittail, striped bass and migratory birds and could ultimately include San Joaquin fall-run chinook salmon, and steelhead trout. Many resident fish would also benefit such as hitch and catfish (ERPP, VI. II, page 388).

The priority habitats identified by CALFED and addressed by this proposal include shaded riverine aquatic habitat, instream aquatic habitat, and wetland habitat.

The many benefits of developing and implementing a riparian restoration plan include improved sediment reduction, water quality and water temperatures (CALFED PSP, page 76-77). In addition, riparian vegetation stabilizes river banks, helps control erosion and reduces sediment.

Linkages/System-wide Ecosystem Benefits

The San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program (SJRRHRP) (ERPP, Vol. II, page 397) was conceived in 1996 and has been moving steadily forward ever since. This program offers a unique opportunity for normally adversarial groups to come together and be productive. The Friant Water Users Authority, the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations have agreed to work on riparian habitat restoration along the San Joaquin River corridor from Friant Dam to the confluence with the Merced River.

The SJRRHRP is funded by the CVPIA under Section B(1) Other. This section of the CVPIA provides funding for the protection and restoration of riparian habitat values through habitat restoration actions. The goal of the SJRRHRP is to improve habitat diversity, spacial distribution, and age class of riparian vegetation, and improving the dynamic hydrologic and geomorphic processes to help sustain, and enhance naturally regenerating riparian and floodplain habitats.

Riparian habitat along the San Joaquin River is inadequate to support production and survival of desirable plant and animal species. The riparian habitat losses in the San Joaquin River system have resulted from dam construction, water diversion, gravel mining and urban encroachment. The need for riparian habitat restoration in this reach of the San Joaquin River is extreme for two reasons; (1) this reach of river has experienced greater environmental damage than other reaches and (2) no other program or forum is focused on this reach of the river. In addition, the floods of January 1997 clearly indicate an urgent need to provide more channel capacity and floodplain terraces to accommodate extremely high flows (60,000 cfs).

The primary biological objectives are to improve riparian and riverine aquatic habitats for Swainson's Hawk, Greater Sandhill Crane, Western Yellow-Billed Cuckoo, shorebirds, wading birds, waterfowl, neotropical migratory birds and splittail (ERPP, Vol. II, page 388). The primary ecological management objectives are to expand and reconnect river channels to their floodplains (ERPP, Vol. II, page 391).

The Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem and the Firebaugh to Mendota Corridor projects specifically address the CALFED vision for the Merced River to Mendota Pool Ecological Management Unit as described on page 392, Vol. II, of the ERPP. "Floodway capacity should be expanded by a combination of: levee setbacks, levee abandonment where new land use and public ownership justify restoring the floodplain, and establishment of new design flood flow capacity that includes a firm commitment to natural vegetation not subject to maintenance or removal."

Historic and existing physical and biological conditions analyses have been completed. The *Historical Riparian Habitat Conditions of the San Joaquin River - Friant Dam to the Merced River* (April 1998) includes descriptions, maps, photos, and other data needed to understand the extent, density, species composition and condition of historical and existing riparian vegetation along the San Joaquin River. In the *Analysis of Physical Processes and Riparian Habitat Potential of the San Joaquin River - Friant Dam to the Merced River* (October 1998), historic cross sections were analyzed and new cross-sections were surveyed to determine how the riverbed has changed over time.

For the existing conditions analysis, 1993 aerial photos were examined to determine where variable communities of riparian vegetation exist and where they can be established. This information was confirmed by ground truthing and comparison with other Geographic Information System (GIS) data bases. Soil types were also mapped to show where there is a likelihood of successfully establishing riparian vegetation.

A GIS has been developed to organize and analyze spatial data on historical and existing conditions. The GIS is being used to analyze the relationship between vegetation and other processes such as hydrology, soils, land use, changes in extent and composition of riparian vegetation, etc.

The information generated in these two reports suggests that restoration of these five sites will likely contribute to improving flooding conditions on surrounding land and to increasing the amount of useable habitat in this reach of river. These analyses suggest that the vegetation, soils, wildlife, adjacent land uses, aquatic conditions, geomorphology, and flood flows make these parcels good candidates for restoration of both habitat and flood plain terraces.

The expected benefits from implementing this project are great due to the magnitude of riparian habitat losses that this reach of river has endured. The planning process will assure that the benefits of implementing this project will be long-term and sustainable. This will be accomplished by planting native species where environmental conditions promise success and where landowners' are willing participants.

Approach to documenting the existing conditions for the Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem project will involve contacting agencies that are in the midst of gathering information for use in the Army Corps of Engineers (COE) comprehensive study. Additional detail will be gathered in the most cost effective method possible by dovetailing this more site specific work with ongoing efforts that have been funded previously. Physical and ecological modeling will not be funded by this project as it is being prepared COE contractors. Results of modeling will be applied to locate suitable sites for increased transient flood water storage and improved flood water routing.

Technical Feasibility and Timing

These projects are simple acquisitions and are not subject to CEQA and NEPA requirements. However, CEQA and NEPA requirements will be met for any restoration work that is undertaken once the properties or easements have been acquired and all necessary permits will be obtained.

Significant collaboration is taking place between the SJRRHRP and other groups actively pursuing the restoration of the San Joaquin River. These groups include the San Joaquin River Management Program, the California Riparian Habitat Joint Venture, the Wildlife Conservation Board, the Department of Fish and Game, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Monitoring and Data Collection Methodology

Monitoring and data evaluation will be unique to each project site. Funding for monitoring and data evaluation exists for each site. Monitoring and data evaluation for the Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem will fall under the jurisdiction of the San Luis National Wildlife Refuge. USFWS staff and technical/engineering consultants will establish baseline pre-project conditions and monitor and compare annually the results of floodplain restoration for biological resources, ecosystem functions, and downstream floodway management. Results will be published annually. Monitoring and data evaluation for the Firebaugh to Mendota Corridor will fall under the existing SJRRHRP.

Biological/Ecological Objectives

Determine how successfully plant and animal populations are surviving and the viability of maintaining self-sustaining populations.

Monitoring Parameters and Data Collection Approach

Identify and quantify parameters that can be tied directly to this action. Establish baseline conditions and a control site for comparison purposes. Establish permanent transects and a regular monitoring schedule based on each specific species being evaluated. Observe fluctuations in species populations (plant and animal) as the result of this action. Note age class and sustainability of populations.

Data Evaluation Approach

Determine trends in survival of plant and animal populations. Determine which actions provide a greater benefit and which may be detrimental to survival of plant and animal populations.

Table 1. Monitoring and Data Collection Information

Question	Monitoring Parameters	Data Evaluation
Are native species benefiting as a result of implementation of this project?	Identify and quantify parameters that can be tied directly to this action.	Determine trends in survival of plant and animal populations.
Are ecosystem functions being restored?	Observe fluctuations in species populations (plant and animal) as the result of this action. Note age class and sustainability of populations.	Evaluate successful re-establishment of geomorphic processes.

Local Involvement

This program is stakeholder driven. Appendix 1 is a list of the individuals and organizations that have been actively participating in moving this restoration effort forward. Attached also is a letter sent to the three counties impacted by this effort, notifying them of the submission of this CALFED proposal.

Third Party Impacts

No third party impacts are anticipated as the result of implementing this program. Public involvement in the planning process will be assured by direct membership of various user groups and individuals in the stakeholder group and by conducting regular public meetings during preparation of the program. User groups include land owners, urban and agricultural water users, environmental groups, flood control entities, and federal, state and local agencies.

Costs and Schedule to Implement Proposed Project

Budget

Costs are for analysis and acquisition of permanent conservation or flood easements. Significant cost share partners exist including the CVPIA. However, CALFED funding is needed to guarantee that the acquisitions can be completed and that these significant opportunities for restoration are not lost.

Funds awarded from CALFED will be granted to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation which will act as fiscal agent in the distribution of funds. Prior to distribution for each acquisition, matching

funds will be secured, and agency-approved appraisals will be completed.

Table 2. Total Budget (CALFED funds only)

Site	Direct Labor (Hours)	Direct Salary and Benefits (\$1,000)	Service Contracts (\$1,000)	Material & Acquisition Costs (\$1,000)	Miscellaneous and other Direct Costs (\$1,000)	Overhead/ Indirect Costs (\$1,000)	Total Cost (1,000)
Grasslands SJR Mainstem	100	3.3	95	405	30.2	16.5	\$550
Firebaugh to Mendota	100	3.5	50	530	27.7	33.8	\$645
Total		6.8	145	935	57.9	50.3	\$1,195

Table 3 - Quarterly Budget (CALFED funds only)

Site	Oct-Dec 99	Jan-Mar 00	Apr-Jun 00	Jul-Sep 00	Oct-Dec 00	Total Budget
Grasslands SJR Mainstem	30	40	45	30	405	\$550
Firebaugh to Mendota	25	30	30	30	530	\$645
Total	55	70	75	60	935	\$1,195

Schedule

The hydraulic analyses for Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem the analyses will determine channel capacity. The hydraulic for the Firebaugh to Mendota Corridor the analyses will determine the level and frequency of flooding. The next step will be to identify willing sellers and proceed with the acquisition of conservation and flood easements.

The Grasslands San Joaquin River Mainstem project is anticipated to have engineering survey and design work completed within 12 to 18 months of approval. The land right acquisition (easement, fee or other method) would require willing sellers, time for negotiations, appraisal, and related transactions. An additional 18 to 24 months would be needed for realty activities, with final completion anticipated in 36 months total time. Real property transactions would be limited to those areas within the existing Grasslands Ecological Area project boundary or would require National Environmental Policy Act NEPA compliance to expand the project boundary.

Cost Sharing

Nearly \$900,000 of CVPLA Restoration funds have already been expended on this program. The Department of Interior is committed to continued funding this effort in the long term. The five year budget is close to one million dollars per year.

Applicant Qualifications

This group is qualified to carry out the proposed project based on the level of interest, participation and support from diverse local groups as well as access to technical expertise. The participants are dedicated to bringing this project to fruition and engineering, planning, biological, and legal expertise are available from within the participating agencies, groups and contract consultants.

The core group that is currently steering this process consists of representatives from seven key organizations. The core group responsible for this current effort consists of the Friant Water Users Authority, the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations, the San Joaquin River Conservancy, the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Below is a brief paragraph on each of these participants.

Representatives of the Friant Water Users Authority (FWUA) have been participating in the riparian restoration project. FWUA is a public agency of the State of California with the responsibility for operating and maintaining the Friant-Kern Canal and associated facilities. The FWUA also represents its 25 member agencies on water issues of statewide significance. Richard Moss, General Manager and Dan Fuels, Resources Analyst have been the FWUA's primary representatives on the SJRRHRP.

The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) is a national nonprofit public interest organization dedicated to protecting the earth's natural resources. With the support of over 350,000 members, including 83,000 in California, staff of environmental attorneys, scientists, and resource specialists address a broad spectrum of environmental issues. NRDC's Western Water Projects works to encourage the conservation and rational use of scarce western water resources, with special emphasis on improving the health of California's waterways. NRDC has been working for protection of the San Francisco Bay/Delta Estuary, including restoration of the San Joaquin River for over a decade. Specific staff involved with the San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Project include the following:

Hamilton Candee is a Senior Staff Attorney in the San Francisco office of NRDC and the Director of NRDC's Western Water Project. He is involved in a variety of efforts to promote environmental reforms in federal and state water policy. Mr. Candee is a graduate of Princeton University and New York University Law School.

Ronnie Cohen is a Senior Project Resources Specialist with NRDC. Her work focuses on promoting urban and agricultural water conservation and broad ecosystem restoration, particularly in the San Francisco Bay/Delta. Prior to her work with NRDC, Ms. Cohen worked as a water resources consultant doing Integrated Resources Planning for urban water agencies. Ms. Cohen holds a B.A. in Environmental Studies from Brown University, and a Master's in Public Policy from the University of California at Berkeley.

The Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations was established twenty years ago and is now the West Coast's primary lobbying organization for commercial fishermen. The Association works to improve conditions for fish including clean water, fishing restrictions and environmental restoration. The individual representing PCFFA on the San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Project is Zeke Grader. Grader, an attorney, helped form the PCFFA and has been the group's executive director since its founding.

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation is acting as the agency lead for the SJRRHRP, and backs the Program with its technical, administrative, and management resources and expertise. Included in that expertise is a significant understanding and knowledge of the San Joaquin River gathered over 60 years of water resources planning and management in the San Joaquin Valley. Under an Interagency Personnel Agreement with the California Department of Water Resources, Reclamation has appointed Ms. Paula Landis, P.E., to act as the Program Manager. Ms. Landis is a Registered Civil Engineer with ten years experience in river management and planning. She has had responsibility planning and developing habitat restoration projects, for scheduling and tracking budgets, and for design and construction, and evaluation and monitoring of restoration projects. In addition, she served as program manager for the San Joaquin River Management Program and has extensive experience coordinating and collaborating with multiple interest groups.

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service has an active involvement and interest in the development and implementation of the San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program. The Service has contributed funding through the CVPIA for initial development of this Program. The Service is responsible for the continuing benefit of the people. The agency's major responsibilities are for migratory birds, and candidate, threatened and endangered species. The Service provides technical assistance for projects associated with this Program. Furthermore, the agency may also provide financial assistance for specific project implementation.

USFWS San Luis NWR staff have broad depth and experience in conducting or supervising this type of water management project. The adjacent refuge lands owned in fee have been managed to provide optimum floodplain and riparian habitats. As a neighboring landowner, FWS has local knowledge of the community and resource conditions. This site is a logical extension of similar activities on other reaches of the San Joaquin River. Cooperative interagency agreements exist that assure staff resources and funds are used in the most beneficial manner.

Scott Frazer is the Refuge Manager and refuge operations specialist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. His responsibilities include water quality monitoring, intensive wetland management, and large habitat restoration projects. He is the primary technical coordinator for the innovative "nonstructural" flood protection proposals on the refuge complex. Mr. Frazer received a B.S. degree in wildlife biology from Humboldt State University in 1979.

Compliance with Standard Terms and Conditions

This proposal is being submitted by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation on behalf of a group of stakeholders. USBR is not required to complete a FORM DI-2010. Any consultants and subcontractors will be hired according to state and federal regulations and requirements for all government agencies.

Appendix A

San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program Action Team Mailing List
Letter to Fresno, Madera and Merced Counties informing them of this funding proposal

San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program
Action Team
May 29, 1998

American Farmland Trust

Greg Kirkpatrick
1002 West Main
Vasallia CA 93291

Assemblyman Dennis Cardoza

State Capitol, Room 4139
Sacramento CA 95814

Attorney General's Office

Christine Sproul
Deputy Attorney General
PO Box 944255
Sacramento CA 94244-2550

Audubon Society

Mike McFarland
7505 North First, #102
Fresno CA 93720

Bay Institute

Peter Vorster
55 Shaver Street, Suite 330
San Rafael CA 94901

California Department of Fish & Game

Rhonda Reed
1234 East Shaw Avenue
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California Department of Fish & Game

Jeffrey R. Single, Ph.D.
Environmental Specialist & Field Training
Biologist
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno CA 93720

California Native Plant Society

Joanna Clines
5635 North Flora
Fresno CA 93710

California State University, Fresno

Roland H. Brady III, Ph.D.
Professor
Department of Geology
Fresno CA 93740-0024

Central California Irrigation District

Michael Porter
PO Box 1231
Los Banos CA 93635-1231

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

John Noonan
3614 East Ashlan Avenue
Fresno CA 93726

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

Betty Yee
3614 East Ashlan Avenue
Fresno CA 93726

City of Firebaugh

Keyth Durham, City Manager
1575 Eleventh Street
Firebaugh CA 93622-2547

Columbia Canal Company

Dave Wooley
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Dos Palos CA 93620

Ducks Unlimited

Holly Hopkins Andree
Director, State & Federal Coordination
Western Regional Office
3074 Gold Canal Drive
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Firebaugh Canal Company

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San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program



SCC-104
ENV-11.00

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
South-Central California Area Office
2666 North Grove Industrial Drive, Suite 106
Fresno, CA 93727-1551

APR 14 1999

I am writing to inform you that the San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program has submitted a proposal to CALFED for potential funding for projects in your area. The San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program was conceived in 1996, by the Friant Water Users Authority, the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations. These groups share a strong interest in the mainstem of the San Joaquin River and have agreed to pursue mutually acceptable restoration activities. The SJRRHRP was formed to initially work on riparian habitat restoration along the San Joaquin River corridor from Friant Dam to the confluence with the Merced River and to pursue other projects as consensus is reached.

The objective of the program is to develop and implement a plan for restoration of a continuous riparian corridor in the study reach and to construct site specific riparian habitat restoration projects. The plan will establish a series of priority actions with specific time frames, estimated costs and benefits, and proposed funding sources.

The projects proposed to CALFED, are located in Fresno, Madera and Merced Counties and encompass portions of the San Joaquin River watershed. The geographic boundaries of the projects are the San Joaquin River between Mendota Dam and the confluence of the San Joaquin and Merced Rivers.

This proposal is for the analysis and acquisition of permanent conservation easements that will provide significant riparian habitat and flood protection benefits. The primary biological objectives are to improve riparian and riverine aquatic habitats and to expand and reconnect river channels to their floodplains and reactivate natural ecological processes.

If you have any questions in this regard or need further information, please contact me at (559) 487-5103 or for the hearing impaired at (559) 487-5933.

Sincerely,

Paula J. Landis
Chief, Resources Management Division
South-Central California Area Office

See attached list

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County of Madera
Planning Commission Chairman
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Gail Hanhart-McIntyre, Chairman
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County of Merced
Planning Department
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Diedra Kelsey, Clerk
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